

February 11, 1925.
[H. R. 11282].
[Public, No. 399.]

CHAP. 210.—An Act To authorize an increase in the limits of cost of certain naval vessels.

"Lexington" and
"Saratoga", Battle-
ships.

Limit of cost in-
creased for converting
into airplane carriers.

Vol. 42, p. 814.
Vol. 39, p. 616, amend-
ed.

Ante, p. 881.
Post, p. 1336.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the limits of cost for the construction of the United States ships Lexington and Saratoga, the conversion of which vessels into airplane carriers, in accordance with the terms of the treaty providing for the limitation of naval armament, was authorized by the Act of July 1, 1922, is hereby increased to \$34,000,000 each.

Approved, February 11, 1925.

February 12, 1925.
[H. R. 466].
[Public, No. 400.]

CHAP. 212.—An Act To amend section 90 of the Judicial Code of the United States, approved March 3, 1911, so as to change the time of holding certain terms of the District Court of Mississippi.

United States courts.
Vol. 37, p. 118,
amended.

Mississippi judicial
districts.

Northern district.

Eastern division.

Western division.

Delta division.

Terms.

Southern district.

Jackson division.

Western division.

Eastern division.

Southern division.
Terms.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 90 of the Judicial Code be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 90. The State of Mississippi is divided into two judicial districts to be known as the northern and southern districts of Mississippi. The northern district shall include the territory embraced on the 1st day of December, 1923, in the counties of Alcorn, Attala, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, Itawamba, Lee, Lowndes, Monroe, Oktibbeha, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tishomingo, and Winston, which shall constitute the eastern division of said district; also the territory embraced on the date last mentioned in the counties of Benton, Calhoun, Carroll, De Soto, Grenada, Lafayette, Marshall, Montgomery, Panola, Tate, Tippah, Union, Webster, and Yalabusha, which shall constitute the western division of said district; also the territory embraced on the date last mentioned in the counties of Bolivar, Coahoma, Leflore, Quitman, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, and Tunica, which shall constitute the Delta division of said district. The terms of the district court for the eastern division shall be held at Aberdeen on the first Mondays in April and October; and for the western division, at Oxford on the third Monday in April and the first Monday in December; and for the Delta division, at Clarksdale on the fourth Monday in January and the third Monday in October. The southern district shall include the territory embraced on the 1st day of December, 1923, in the counties of Amite, Copiah, Covington, Franklin, Hinds, Holmes, Jefferson Davis, Lawrence, Leake, Lincoln, Madison, Pike, Rankin, Simpson, Smith, Scott, Wilkinson, and Yazoo, which shall constitute the Jackson division; also the territory embraced on the date last mentioned in the counties of Adams, Claiborne, Humphreys, Issaquena, Jefferson, Sharkey, Warren, and Washington, which shall constitute the western division; also the territory embraced on the date last mentioned in the counties of Clarke, Jones, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, and Wayne, which shall constitute the eastern division; also the territory embraced on the date last mentioned in the counties of Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Lamar, Marion, Perry, Pearl River, Stone, and Walthall, which shall constitute the southern division of said district. Terms of the district court for the Jackson division shall be held at Jackson on the first Mondays in May and November; for the western division at Vicksburg on the third Mondays in May and November; for the eastern division at Meridian on the third Mondays in March and September; and for the southern division at Biloxi on the third

Monday in February and the first Monday in June. The clerk of the court for each district shall maintain an office in charge of himself, or a deputy, at each place in his district at which court is now required to be held, at which he shall not himself reside, which shall be kept open at all times for the transaction of the business of the court. The marshal for each of said districts shall maintain an office in charge of himself or a deputy at each place of holding court in his district."

Approved, February 12, 1925.

Officers.

CHAP. 213.—An Act To make valid and enforceable written provisions or agreements for arbitration of disputes arising out of contracts, maritime transactions, or commerce among the States or Territories or with foreign nations.

February 12, 1925.
[H. R. 646.]
[Public, No. 401.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That "maritime transactions," as herein defined, means charter parties, bills of lading of water carriers, agreements relating to wharfage, supplies furnished vessels or repairs to vessels, collisions, or any other matters in foreign commerce which, if the subject of controversy, would be embraced within admiralty jurisdiction; "commerce," as herein defined, means commerce among the several States or with foreign nations, or in any Territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia, or between any such Territory and another, or between any such Territory and any State or foreign nation, or between the District of Columbia and any State or Territory or foreign nation, but nothing herein contained shall apply to contracts of employment of seamen, railroad employees, or any other class of workers engaged in foreign or interstate commerce.

United States Arbitration Act.
Definitions.
"Maritime transactions."

"Commerce."

Not applicable to employment contracts of workers.

SEC. 2. That a written provision in any maritime transaction or a contract evidencing a transaction involving commerce to settle by arbitration a controversy thereafter arising out of such contract or transaction, or the refusal to perform the whole or any part thereof, or an agreement in writing to submit to arbitration an existing controversy arising out of such a contract, transaction, or refusal, shall be valid, irrevocable, and enforceable, save upon such grounds as exist at law or in equity for the revocation of any contract.

Written contracts for arbitration of controversies in maritime or commerce transactions, enforceable, etc.

Exception.

SEC. 3. That if any suit or proceeding be brought in any of the courts of the United States upon any issue referable to arbitration under an agreement in writing for such arbitration, the court in which such suit is pending, upon being satisfied that the issue involved in such suit or proceeding is referable to arbitration under such an agreement, shall on application of one of the parties stay the trial of the action until such arbitration has been had in accordance with the terms of the agreement, providing the applicant for the stay is not in default in proceeding with such arbitration.

Trials of suits upon issues referable to arbitration on agreement therefor, stayed, on application, until arbitration has been had.

SEC. 4. That a party aggrieved by the alleged failure, neglect, or refusal of another to arbitrate under a written agreement for arbitration may petition any court of the United States which, save for such agreement, would have jurisdiction under the judicial code at law, in equity, or in admiralty of the subject matter of a suit arising out of the controversy between the parties, for an order directing that such arbitration proceed in the manner provided for in such agreement. Five days' notice in writing of such application shall be served upon the party in default. Service thereof shall be made in the manner provided by law for the service of summons in the jurisdiction in which the proceeding is brought. The court shall hear the parties, and upon being satisfied that the making of the agreement for arbitration or the failure to comply therewith is not in

Aggrieved party may petition for order of court directing arbitration on failure, etc., of other party.

Notice, etc.

On hearing, order directed, if making agreement, etc., not in issue.